# Appendix D Great Lakes National Program Office Data Standard: Quality Assurance/Quality Control Codes

The following codes are examples of GLNPO's standard codes for QA/QC samples and are available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/glnpo/glenda/index.html">www.epa.gov/glnpo/glenda/index.html</a>.

## **GLENDA FIELD REMARK CODES**

(Fieldrmk.xls)

| Code  | <u>Name</u>             | <u>Description</u>   |
|-------|-------------------------|--|
| ALT   | Alternate Method        | Sample was obtained using an alternate collection method. This flag alerts data users to read details presented in the sampling  |
|       |                         | method exception text  |
| CONT  | Known contamination     | Sample is known (i.e., confirmed) to have been contaminated in the field or during transport. Validity of results from this sample   |
|       |                         | may be compromised   |
| FRZN  | Freezing                | Sample was unintentionally frozen in field or during transport   |
| LOST  | Lost/Not Submitted      | Sample was taken but either was not submitted for analysis or was lost before being analyzed   |
| SPIL  | Spillage/Leakage        | Sample spilled or leaked in the field or during transport. Sample was submitted anyway. Validity of results from this sample may be compromised  |
| SUSP  | Suspected contamination | Sample is suspected (i.e., but not confirmed) to have been contaminated in the field or during transport. Validity of results from this sample may be compromised                                  |
| SXBD  | Equipment Malfunction   | Sampling equipment malfunctioned or did not function as intended   |
| OTHER | Other                   | Validity of results from this sample may be compromised due to conditions other than presented in this list. This flag alerts data users to read details presented in the field crew comments text |

| Code | Name  | Group                 | <u>Description</u>  | Reporting Instruction Description   | Assignor |
|------|---|-----------------------|---|---|----------|
| ALT  | Alternate Method                                | Procedure             | Reported value was obtained using an alternate analytic method. Validity of reported value may be compromised   | Information about the alternate analytic method used should be provided in the Exception to Method Text | Lab, QC  |
| B5D  | Below 5 Times<br>MDL                            | Other                 | Reported value is greater than the method detection limit but less than 5 times the method detection limit. Validity of reported value and associated precision statistics (e.g., RPD) may be compromised |   | Lab, QC  |
| BAC  | Correction Factor, background                   | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected for variable background contribution to the instrument signal in the determination of trace elements   | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table         | Lab, QC  |
| BDL  | Detection Limit,<br>less than                   | Limit                 | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported value is below a detection limit. The type of detection limit was unspecified. Validity of reported value may be compromised                         |   | Lab, QC  |
| BLQ  | Between Instrument Detection and Quantification | Limit                 | Reported value is above calculated instrument detection limit but below quantification limit. Validity of reported value may be compromised   | Information about limits should be provided in the Project QA/QC Summary                                | Lab, QC  |
| CAJ  | Correction Factor, lab                          | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a lab performance check factor  | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table         | Lab, QC  |
| CAN  | No Result<br>Reported, analysis<br>canceled     | No Result<br>Reported | Analysis was canceled and not performed. No result value was reported   | The reason for cancellation should be provided in the Exception to Method Text                          | Lab, QC  |
| CBC  | No Result<br>Reported, cannot<br>be calculated  | No Result<br>Reported | Result should have been a calculated value but it could not be determined because an operand value was qualified. No result value was reported  |   | Lab, QC  |
| CBL  | Correction Factor,<br>blank                     | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a blank correction factor   | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table         | Lab, QC  |
| CCA  | Correction Factor, calibration                  | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a calibration correction factor   | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table         | Lab, QC  |
| CDI  | Correction Factor, dilution                     | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a dilution correction factor  | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table         | Lab, QC  |

| Code | Name   | Group                 | Description  | Reporting Instruction Description   | Assignor |
|------|--|-----------------------|--|---|----------|
| CLC  | Correction Factor, other                             | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected. Correction factor was derived by unspecified means or means other than those presented in this list                        | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table. Information about how the correction factor was derived should be provided in the Result Description | Lab, QC  |
| CON  | Value Confirmed                                      | Other                 | Reported value was confirmed by using an auxiliary analytical technique  | Information about confirmation technique should be provided in the Analytic Method or the Exception to Method Text  | Lab, QC  |
| CSP  | Correction Factor, standard pressure                 | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a standard pressure correction factor  | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table   | Lab, QC  |
| CST  | Correction Factor,<br>standard<br>temperature        | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a standard temperature correction factor   | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table   | Lab, QC  |
| CSU  | Correction Factor, surrogate                         | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a surrogate correction factor  | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table   | Lab, QC  |
| СТР  | Correction Factor, standard temperature and pressure | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected by a standard temperature and pressure correction factor  | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table   | Lab, QC  |
| DDL  | Daily Detection<br>Limit, less than                  | Limit                 | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported value is below the calculated daily detection limit.  Validity of reported value may be compromised | Information about detection limits should be provided in the Project QA/QC Summary  | Lab, QC  |
| EER  | No Result<br>Reported, entry<br>error                | No Result<br>Reported | Original value is known to be incorrect due to a data entry error. The correct value could not be determined. No result value was reported               |   | Lab, QC  |
| EHT  | Exceeded Holding<br>Time                             | Handling              | Sample or extract was held longer than the approved amount of time before analysis. Validity of reported value may be compromised                        | The length of time that the sample was held should be provided in the Exception to Method Text  | Lab, QC  |
| EST  | Estimated Value, outside limit of precision          | Estimated<br>Value    | Reported value was not within expected limits of precision and is therefore considered an estimate   |   | Lab, QC  |
| FAC  | No Result<br>Reported, field<br>accident             | No Result<br>Reported | Analysis was halted because a field accident either destroyed the sample or rendered it not suitable for analysis. No result value was reported          | Information about the field accident should be provided in the Exception to Method Text   | Lab, QC  |

| Code | Name                | Group     | Description  | Reporting Instruction Description | Assignor |
|------|---------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|----------|
| FBB  | Field Bottle Blank, | QC Failed | A field bottle blank associated with this analysis failed  |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | failed              |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may    |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | be compromised   |                                   |          |
| FBS  | Blank Sample,       | QC Failed | A blank sample associated with this analysis failed the    |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | failed              |           | acceptance criteria. It is unknown whether the blank       |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | that failed was a field blank or a lab blank. Validity of  |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | reported value may be compromised                          |                                   |          |
| FCB  | Lab Calibration     | QC Failed | A lab calibration blank associated with this analysis      |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Blank, failed       |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | may be compromised   |                                   |          |
| FCC  | Continuing          | QC Setup  | A continuing calibration check associated with this        |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Calibration Check,  |           | analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of       |                                   |          |
|      | failed              |           | reported value may be compromised                          |                                   |          |
| FCL  | Lab Control         | QC Failed | A lab control solution associated with this analysis       |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Solution, failed    |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | may be compromised   |                                   |          |
| FCN  | Calibration         | QC Failed | A calibration sample (type unknown or unspecified)         |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Sample, failed      |           | associated with this analysis failed the acceptance        |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised    |                                   |          |
| FCS  | Field Control       | QC Failed | A field control solution associated with this analysis     |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Solution, failed    |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | may be compromised   |                                   |          |
| FCV  | Coefficient of      | Other     | Precision, measured as CV between multiple analyses        |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | Variation Limit,    |           | of a sample within and between instrumental analysis       |                                   |          |
|      | failed              |           | runs, did not meet the method criteria. Validity of        |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | reported value may be compromised                          |                                   |          |
| FDB  | Dry Blank, failed   | QC Failed | A dry blank associated with this analysis failed the       |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      |                     |           | acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be     |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | compromised  |                                   |          |
| FDC  | Drift Check, failed | QC Setup  | A drift check associated with this analysis failed the     |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      |                     |           | acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be     |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | compromised  |                                   |          |
| FDL  | Lab Duplicate,      | QC Failed | A lab duplicate associated with this analysis failed the   |                                   | Lab, QC  |
|      | failed              |           | acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be     |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           | compromised  |                                   |          |
|      |                     |           |  |                                   |          |

| Code | Name  | Group     | Description  | Reporting Instruction Description | Assignor |
|------|---|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|----------|
| FFB  | Field Matrix Blank,<br>failed               | QC Failed | A field matrix blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                               |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FFD  | Field Duplicate, failed                     | QC Failed | A field duplicate associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                  |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FFR  | Field Blank, failed                         | QC Failed | A field blank sample (type unknown or unspecified) associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FFS  | Field Spike, failed                         | QC Failed | A field spike associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                      |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FFT  | Trip Blank, failed                          | QC Failed | A trip blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                       |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FIB  | Field Instrument<br>Blank, failed           | QC Failed | A field instrument blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                           |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FIC  | Lab Interference<br>Check Sample,<br>failed | QC Failed | A lab interference check sample associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised.                   |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FIS  | Internal Standard, failed                   | QC Failed | An internal standard associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                               |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FKB  | Continuing Check<br>Blank, failed           | QC Failed | A continuing check blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                           |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FLA  | Field Lab Anomaly                           | Other     | Reported value for lab measurement was inconsistent with reported value for corresponding field measurement. Validity of reported value may be compromised     |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FLB  | Lab Matrix Blank, failed                    | QC Failed | A lab matrix blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                 |                                   | Lab, QC  |

| Code | Name                             | Group     | <u>Description</u>   | Reporting Instruction Description | Assignor |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|----------|
| FLC  | Linearity Check, failed          | QC Setup  | A linearity check associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FLR  | Lab Blank, failed                | QC Failed | A lab blank sample (type unknown or unspecified) associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FLS  | Lab Spike, failed                | QC Failed | A lab spike associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                      |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FMB  | Matrix Spike<br>Blank, failed    | QC Failed | A matrix spike blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                             |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FMS  | Matrix Spike,<br>failed          | QC Failed | A matrix spike associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                   |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FNB  | Lab Instrument<br>Blank, failed  | QC Failed | A lab instrument blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                           |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FOB  | Field Fortified<br>Blank, failed | QC Failed | A field fortified blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                          |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FPB  | Lab Procedural<br>Blank, failed  | QC Failed | A lab procedural blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                           |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FPC  | Performance<br>Check, failed     | QC Failed | A lab performance check sample associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                   |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FPS  | Lab Procedural<br>Spike, failed  | QC Failed | A lab procedural spike associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                           |                                   | Lab, QC  |
| FQC  | Quality Control, failed          | QC Failed | Quality control criteria were exceeded during analysis.<br>Value was not rejected, however. Validity of reported<br>value may be compromised                 |                                   | Lab, QC  |

| Code | Name               | Group     | <u>Description</u>   | Reporting Instruction Description | <u>Assignor</u> |
|------|--------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| FRB  | Field Reagent      | QC Failed | A field reagent blank associated with this analysis failed             |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | Blank, failed      |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FRF  | Reference          | QC Failed | A reference sample (type unknown or unspecified)                       |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | material, failed   |           | associated with this analysis failed the acceptance                    |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                |                                   |                 |
| FRM  | Field Reference    | QC Failed | A field reference material associated with this analysis               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | Material, failed   |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value             |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | may be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FRN  | Lab Reagent        | QC Failed | A lab reagent blank associated with this analysis failed               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | Blank, failed      |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may                |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FRS  | Lab Reference,     | QC Failed | A lab reference associated with this analysis failed the               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be                 |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | compromised  |                                   |                 |
| FSB  | Lab Solvent Blank, | QC Failed | A lab solvent blank associated with this analysis failed               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may                |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FSD  | Lab Spike          | QC Failed | A spiked lab duplicate associated with this analysis                   |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | Duplicate, failed  |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value             |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | may be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FSF  | Surrogate Spike,   | QC Failed | Surrogate spike recoveries associated with this analysis               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value             |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | may be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FSK  | Spike sample,      | QC Failed | A spike sample (type unknown or unspecified)                           |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | associated with this analysis failed the acceptance                    |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                |                                   |                 |
| FSL  | Lab Spike Blank,   | QC Failed | A spiked lab blank associated with this analysis failed                |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may                |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | be compromised   |                                   |                 |
| FSP  | Lab Solvent Spike, | QC Failed | A lab solvent spike associated with this analysis failed               |                                   | Lab, QC         |
|      | failed             |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may                |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           | be compromised   |                                   |                 |
|      |                    |           |  |                                   |                 |

| Code | Name                             | Group     | Description   | Reporting Instruction Description                                    | Assignor |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------|---|--|----------|
| FSR  | Standard<br>Reference            | QC Failed | A standard reference material associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of           |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Material, failed                 |           | reported value may be compromised   |  |          |
| FSS  | Surrogate, failed                | QC Failed | Surrogate recoveries associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may |  | Lab, QC  |
|      |                                  |           | be compromised  |  |          |
| FTB  | Field Filter Blank,              | QC Failed | A field filter blank associated with this analysis failed   |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | failed                           |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised  |  |          |
| FUB  | Field Tubing                     | QC Failed | A field tubing blank associated with this analysis failed   |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Blank, failed                    |           | the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised  |  |          |
| FVS  | Lab Calibration                  | QC Setup  | A lab calibration verification solution associated with   |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Verification<br>Solution, failed |           | this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                       |  |          |
| FWB  | Field Source                     | QC Failed | A field source water blank associated with this analysis  |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Water Blank,<br>failed           |           | failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                     |  |          |
| GTL  | Operating Range,                 | Limit     | Reported value is above the valid operating range of the  |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | greater than                     |           | analytical system, quantitative process, or qualitative process, or reported value is above the highest           |  |          |
| HIB  | Likely Biased High               | Other     | calibration standard. Validity of reported value may be<br>Reported value is probably biased high as evidenced by |  | QC       |
|      | Enery Blased Flight              | Other     | LMS (matrix spike, lab) results, SRM (reference   |  | QU       |
|      |                                  |           | material, standard) recovery, blank contamination or other internal lab QC data. Reported value is not            |  |          |
| IDL  | Instrument                       | Limit     | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported  | Information about detection limits should be provided in the Project | Lab, QC  |
|      | Detection Limit,<br>less than    |           | value is below the calculated instrument detection limit.  Validity of reported value may be compromised          | QA/QC Summary  |          |
| IDS  | Analyte Not                      | Other     | Identity of analyte could not be confirmed using an   |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Confirmed                        |           | alternate technique   |  |          |
| INT  | Interference                     | Other     | Reported value is believed to be the result of  |  | Lab, QC  |
|      | Suspected                        |           | interference and not presence of the analyte. Validity of reported value may be compromised                       |  |          |

| Code | Name   | Group                 | Description   | Reporting Instruction Description   | Assignor |
|------|--|-----------------------|---|---|----------|
| INV  | Invalid  | Other                 | Reported value is deemed invalid by the QC Coordinator  |   | QC       |
| ISC  | Correction Factor, internal standard           | Corrected             | Reported value was corrected for the internal standard recovery   | The value of the correction factor, if known, should be provided in the Correction Factor table | Lab, QC  |
| ISP  | Improper Sample<br>Preservation                | Handling              | Sample was not properly preserved. Validity of reported value may be compromised  |   | Lab, QC  |
| JCN  | Sample Container<br>Damaged, no<br>sample lost | Handling              | Sample container (jar, test tube, etc.) was damaged but no portion of the sample was lost. Validity of reported value may be compromised  |   | Lab, QC  |
| JCM  | Sample Container<br>Damaged, sample<br>lost    | Handling              | Sample container (jar, test tube, etc.) was damaged. At least a portion of the sample was lost. Validity of reported value may be compromised   |   | Lab, QC  |
| KCA  | Known<br>Contamination, lab<br>analysis        |                       | Contamination is known to have occurred during the laboratory analysis process. Validity of reported value may be compromised   | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text       | Lab, QC  |
| KCF  | Known<br>Contamination,<br>field               | Contaminati<br>on     | Contamination is known to have occurred during the field collection process. Validity of reported value may be compromised  | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text       | Lab, QC  |
| KCP  | Known<br>Contamination, lab<br>preparation     |                       | Contamination is known to have occurred during the laboratory preparation process. Validity of reported value may be compromised  | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text       | Lab, QC  |
| ксх  | Known<br>Contamination,<br>unknown             | Contaminati<br>on     | Contamination is known to have occurred but the source of that contamination is unknown. Validity of reported value may be compromised  |   | Lab, QC  |
| LAC  | No Result<br>Reported, lab<br>accident         | No Result<br>Reported | Analysis was halted because a laboratory accident either destroyed the sample or rendered it not suitable for analysis. No result value was reported  | Information about the lab accident should be provided in the Exception to Method Text           | Lab, QC  |
| LOB  | Likely Biased Low                              | Other                 | Reported value is probably biased low as evidenced by LMS (matrix spike, lab) results, SRM (reference material, standard) recovery or other internal lab QC data. Reported value is not considered invalid, however |   | QC       |

| Code  | <u>Name</u>        | Group     | Description  | Reporting Instruction Description                                    | Assignor |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|--|--|----------|
| LTL   | Operating Range,   | Limit     | Reported value is below the valid operating range of the   |  | Lab, QC  |
|       | less than          |           | analytical system, quantitative process, or qualitative  |  |          |
|       |                    |           | process, or reported value is less than the lowest   |  |          |
|       |                    |           | calibration standard. Validity of reported value may be  |  |          |
| MBK   | Blank, detected    | Other     | Analyte was detected in a related lab blank at a   |  | Lab, QC  |
|       | below MDL          |           | concentration below the method detection limit (MDL)   |  |          |
|       |                    |           | and/or blank action limit, however the related lab blank   |  |          |
|       | Mathad Datadan     | 1.5       | did not fail   | Information of a set detection Parity of a stable and the Device of  | 1 -1- 00 |
| MDL   | Method Detection   | Limit     | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported value is below the calculated method detection limit. | Information about detection limits should be provided in the Project | Lab, QC  |
|       | Limit, less than   |           |  | QA/QC Summary  |          |
|       |                    |           | Validity of reported value may be compromised  |  |          |
| NAI   | No Result          | No Result | A valid result could not be obtained from the analysis   | Information about the type of interference should be provided in the | Lab, QC  |
|       | Reported,          | Reported  | due to interference. Analysis was halted. No result  | Exception to Method Text   |          |
|       | interference       |           | value was reported   | ·  |          |
|       |                    |           | ·  |  |          |
| NRR   | No Result          | No Result |  | The reason the result was not determined or entered should be        | Lab, QC  |
|       | Reported, other    | Reported  | other than those presented in this list. No result value   | provided in the Exception to Method Text                             |          |
|       |                    |           | was reported   |  |          |
| NSQ   | No Result          | No Result | Result value could not be obtained due to insufficient   |  | Lab, QC  |
| NOG   | Reported,          | Reported  | quantity of the sample. No result value was reported   |  | Lab, QC  |
|       | insufficient       | Reported  | quantity of the sample. No result value was reported   |  |          |
|       | quantity of sample |           |  |  |          |
| NWL   | Operating Range,   | Limit     | Reported value is outside (above or below not  |  | Lab, QC  |
|       | not within         |           | specified) the valid operating range of the analytical   |  |          |
|       |                    |           | system, quantitative process, or qualitative process, or   |  |          |
|       |                    |           | outside the calibration standard. Validity of reported   |  |          |
| OTHER | Other              | Other     | Validity of reported value may be compromised for  | The reason the validity of the reported value may be compromised     | Lab, QC  |
|       |                    |           | reasons other than those presented in this list  | should be provided in the Result Description                         |          |
|       |                    |           |  |  |          |
| PNQ   | No Quantifiable    | No Result | Analyte was present in the sample but was not  |  | Lab, QC  |
| 1110  | Result Reported    | Reported  | quantifiable. No result value was reported   |  | Lab, QO  |
|       | rtoodit rtoportod  | rtoportou | quarimidate. No result value was reported  |  |          |
|       |                    |           |  |  |          |
| PPD   | Spiked Blank       | QC Failed | Analysis results showed unacceptable duplicate   |  | Lab, QC  |
|       | Duplicate, failed  |           | precision between laboratory prepared spiked blank   |  |          |
|       |                    |           | duplicates. Validity of reported value may be  |  |          |
|       |                    | 0.1       | compromised  |  |          |
| REJ   | Value Rejected     | Other     | Reported value was rejected by the laboratory. Value   | The reason that the value was rejected should be provided in the     | Lab, QC  |
|       |                    |           | was not utilized in the calculation of any results   | Exception to Method Text   |          |
|       |                    |           |  |  |          |
|       | 1                  |           |  |  |          |

| Code | Name   | Group             | <u>Description</u>  | Reporting Instruction Description  | <u>Assignor</u> |
|------|--|-------------------|---|--|-----------------|
| REQ  | Method Not<br>Approved, re-<br>analyze         | Procedure         | Analytic method for the reported value was not approved. The sample was re-analyzed using a different method  |  | Lab, QC         |
| RET  | Value Not<br>Approved                          | Other             | Reported value is not approved by laboratory management. The sample was re-analyzed with no change in the method. Validity of reported value may be compromised | The reason that the value is not approved should be provided in the Exception to Method Text | Lab, QC         |
| REX  | Re-Prepared                                    | Procedure         | Reported value was generated from a re-preparation of the same sample   |  | Lab, QC         |
| RIN  | Re-Analyzed                                    | Procedure         | Reported value was generated from a re-analysis of the same sample extract or aliquot using the same method   |  | Lab, QC         |
| RSL  | Resloped                                       | Procedure         | Reported value was quantified from a resloped calibration curve during the instrument run   |  | Lab, QC         |
| SCA  | Suspected<br>Contamination,<br>lab analysis    | Contaminati<br>on | Contamination is suspected to have occurred during the laboratory analysis process. Validity of reported value may be compromised                               | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text    | Lab, QC         |
| SCF  | Suspected<br>Contamination,<br>field           | Contaminati<br>on | Contamination is suspected to have occurred during the field collection process. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                  | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text    | Lab, QC         |
| SCP  | Suspected<br>Contamination, lab<br>preparation |                   | Contamination is suspected to have occurred during the laboratory preparation process. Validity of reported value may be compromised                            | The source of contamination, if known, should be provided in the Exception to Method Text    | Lab, QC         |
| scx  | Suspected<br>Contamination,<br>unknown         | Contaminati<br>on | Contamination is suspected to have occurred but the source of that contamination is unknown. Validity of reported value may be compromised                      |  | Lab, QC         |
| SDL  | System Detection<br>Limit, less than           | Limit             | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported value is below the calculated system detection limit. Validity of reported value may be compromised        | Information about detection limits should be provided in the Project QA/QC Summary           | Lab, QC         |
| SFF  | Field Spike Blank, failed                      | QC Failed         | A field spike blank associated with this analysis failed the acceptance criteria. Validity of reported value may be compromised                                 |  | Lab, QC         |

| Code | Name   | Group           | Description   | Reporting Instruction Description  | Assignor |
|------|--|-----------------|---|--|----------|
| TIE  | Estimated value, no calibration standard         | Estimated Value | Reported value has been estimated because no calibration standard was analyzed  |  | Lab, QC  |
| UDL  | Sample-specific<br>Detection Limit,<br>less than | Limit           | Analyte produced an instrument response but reported value is below the calculated sample-specific detection limit. Validity of reported value may be compromised | Information about detection limits should be provided in the Project QA/QC Summary                                       | Lab, QC  |
| UNC  | Value Not<br>Confirmed                           | Other           | Reported value could not be confirmed by using an auxiliary analytic method (e.g., an alternate GC column). Validity of reported value may be compromised         | Information about the confirmation technique should be provided in the Analytical Method or the Exception to Method Text | Lab, QC  |
| UND  | Analyte Not<br>Detected                          | Limit           | Analyte produced no instrument response above noise   |  | Lab, QC  |

| Code | <u>Name</u>   | Description   | <u>Purpose</u>   | Field or<br>Lab Flag |
|------|---|---|--|----------------------|
| CAL  | Calibration solution                                | Aliquot of target analyte(s) or reference material of known concentration analyzed using the exact instrument and conditions to analyze routine field samples   | To set/calibrate instrument response relative to various concentrations of analyte(s) prior to the laboratory production run   | В                    |
| CHn  | Standard check, high<br>("n"-th member from<br>lab) | The "n"-th aliquot of solution with known high concentration (e.g 80%) of subject analyte. Not carried to field. Analyzed using exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples  | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" high value. If not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate instrumentation at high end of reporting spectrum or (2) possible contamination from lab | L                    |
| CLB  | Blank check,<br>continuing                          | Aliquot of reagent water analyzed for background levels of the target analyte(s) using the exact instrument and conditions used to analyze routine field samples. This aliquot will be run several times during the production run                              | To verify instrument background and/or check for contaminant buildup in the instrument during the production run   | В                    |
| CLC  | Calibration check, continuing                       | Aliquot of subject analyte(s) or reference material (different source than CAL solution) of known concentration analyzed using the exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples. This aliquot will be run several times during the production run     | To verify whether the initial calibration data are still valid at various points in the laboratory production run (i.e., to measure instrument "drift")  | В                    |
| CLM  |   | Initial aliquot of target analyte(s) or reference material of known concentration analyzed using the exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples. Used when a group of calibrations is required at different levels of target analyte concentrations | To set/determine the initial instrument response during multipoint calibration (i.e., calibration using three or more standards of known, but different, concentrations)                                       | В                    |
| CLn  | Standard check, low<br>("n"-th member from<br>lab)  | The "n"-th aliquot of solution with known low concentration (e.g., 20%) of subject analyte. Not carried to field. Analyzed using exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples   | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" low value. If not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate instrumentation at low end of reporting spectrum or (2) possible contamination from lab   | L                    |
| CLS  | Calibration solution, initial of single point       | Initial aliquot of target analyte(s) or reference material of known concentration analyzed using the exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples. Used when target analyte concentration will be in a fixed range                                    | To set/determine the initial instrument response during singlepoint calibration (i.e., calibration using a single standard of known concentration)   | В                    |
|      |   | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) analyzed only to calculate daily detection limits of instruments   | To calculate daily detection limits  | L                    |
| FBB  | Blank, field bottle                                 | Aliquot of reagent water placed in one empty sample container (e.g., bottle) in the field. Not exposed to any other field activity. Otherwise handled same as routine field sample in all facets of transport and lab analysis.                                 | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination that may have pre-existed in the sample containers prior to filling them with actual samples   | F                    |

| Code | Name                                     | Description  | Purpose  | <u>Field or</u><br>Lab Flag |
|------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
|      | Blank, field source water                | Aliquot of reagent water passed through entire train of sampling equipment before it is used to take routine field sample. Not exposed to any other field activity. Otherwise handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample      | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples from entire configuration of sampling gear   | F                           |
| FBT  | Blank, field tubing                      | Aliquot of reagent water passed through field tubing before it is used to take routine field sample. Not exposed to any other field activity. Otherwise handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                            | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples by the sampling line   | F                           |
| FCM  | Control solution, field                  | which known quantity of target analyte is added in the field.  | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" value added in field. If not identical, can indicate (1) presence of subject analyte in environment below detection limits or (2) possible contamination from field, transport, or lab | F                           |
| FDn  | Duplicate, ("n"-th<br>member from field) | The "n"-th duplicate of a routine field sample (RFS). Taken at the SAME TIME and SAME PLACE, using the same gear, and treated same as RFS through all field, transport, and lab procedures   | To evaluate field sampling and matrix variability when duplicate samples theoretically contain the same amount of the subject analyte  | F                           |
| FFB  |  | Aliquot of reagent water passed through field filter material before it is used on routine field sample. Not exposed to any other field activity. Otherwise handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                        | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples by filter materials used in the field  | F                           |
| FFM  | Blank, field fortified                   | Aliquot of sample matrix (known to be below detection for target analyte) to which a known concentration of target analyte is added in field. Otherwise handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                            |  | F                           |
| FMB  | Matrix blank, field                      | Unexposed sample collection medium (e.g., dry deposition plate) carried to field and left unexposed for the duration of sampling event. Otherwise handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field samples                                 | To evaluate contamination from the sampling medium, field collection activities, and transportation practices  | F                           |
| FRB  | Blank, field reagent                     | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) containing all reagents, preservatives, solvents, standards used to process routine field sample. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                   | To identify and/or evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples from any source in the field, during transport, or in the laboratory   | F                           |
| FRM  | Reference material, field                | Aliquot containing a certified value of the target analyte (aliquot usually from NIST). Not exposed to any field conditions, equipment, or additives. Sent to lab from field crew. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample | To evaluate how closely lab reported result matches the "certified" value. If not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate analytical procedures or (2) possible contamination from field, transport, or lab   | F                           |

| Code | <u>Name</u>                            | Description   | Purpose   | Field or<br>Lab Flag |
|------|--|---|---|----------------------|
| FSF  | Spiked sample, field (final value)     | One part of a routine field sample that is split in the field. This split (FSF) is fortified in field with known concentration of analyte and analyzed in the lab according to the specified method. The other split is analyzed without fortification          | To evaluate the amount of target analyte existing in the fortified sample so that it can be compared to a "duplicate" sample (FSO) that should be identical in all ways except that it did not have addition of the subject analyte                             | F                    |
| FTB  | Blank, field trip                      | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) carried to field but NOT exposed to any field conditions, equipment, or additives. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample   | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples during sample transport. Used as QC for samples taken during an entire trip   | F                    |
| IDLS | Instrument detection limit solution    | Aliquot of target analyte(s) or reference material of known concentration analyzed only to calculate instrument detection limits  | To calculate instrument detection limits  | L                    |
| IFB  | Blank, field instrument                | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) created in field and analyzed in field for background levels of the target analyte using the exact instrument to be used in subsequent analyses when conducted in field                          | To 1) test for instrument contamination or 2) verify results from calibration blank   | F                    |
| ILB  | Blank, lab instrument                  | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) created in lab and analyzed for background levels of the target analyte using the exact instrument to be used in subsequent analyses   | To 1) test for instrument contamination or 2) verify results from calibration blank   | L                    |
| LCB  | Blank, lab calibration                 | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral material (resin, filter), possibly adjusted in pH, but without addition of any other reagents. Created in lab and analyzed using the exact lab instrument used to analyze routine field samples                       | To test and adjust instrument settings for "zero level" prior to, or during, sample analysis  | L                    |
| LCM  | Control solution, lab                  | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) to which known quantity of target analyte is added. Contains same reagents, solvents, standards, etc. as routine field sample. Created in lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" value added in lab. If not identical, can indicate (1) presence of subject analyte in environment below detection limits or (2) possible contamination from lab materials or equipment              | L                    |
| LDB  | Blank, lab dry                         | Aliquot with all reagents, internal standards, surrogates, and solvents to be added to routine field sample EXCEPT has no reagent water/neutral material. Created in lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample                                     | To evaluate possible contamination from reagents, standards, solvents, surrogates, etc. when reagent water is NOT present   | L                    |
| LDF  | Diluted sample, lab (final value)      | One part of a routine field sample that is split in the lab. This portion (LDF) is analyzed according to the specified method after dilution. The other portion is analyzed without dilution  | To assess precision of lab dilution techniques and to evaluate potential contamination in dilution material. Done by comparing to a "duplicate" sample (LDO) that should be identical in all ways except that it did not have addition of the diluting material | L                    |
| LDn  | Duplicate, ("n"-th<br>member from lab) | The "n"-th duplicate of a routine field sample. Created in the lab and treated same as routine field sample through all procedures  | To evaluate lab variation in reported results when duplicate samples theoretically contain the same amount of the subject analyte. Provides precision assessment of results   | L                    |

| Code | <u>Name</u>   | Description   | <u>Purpose</u>  | Field or<br>Lab Flag |
|------|---|---|---|----------------------|
| LFn  | Spiked sample, lab<br>(Final values - "n"-th<br>member) | The "n"-th duplicate of the "Spiked Sample, Lab Final Value" (LSF). Used when routine field sample is split in two portions, one portion is analyzed with spiking (LSF). The LSF may be duplicated n times  | To verify the results from Spiked Sample, Lab Final Value (LSF)   | L                    |
| LIM  | Interference check sample, lab                          | Solution with known concentration of a suite of target analytes. Created in lab and analyzed using exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples   | To evaluate spectral interferences on the signature of one analyte caused by another analyte in the suite being tested. Only checks interference from instrumentation (does not check interference from matrix)             | L                    |
| LIS  | Internal standard, lab                                  | Routine field sample fortified with addition of a known concentration of a standard compound which does not occur in the environment but which does have similar spectral signature during analysis   | ,   | L                    |
| LMB  | Matrix blank, lab                                       | Unexposed sample collection medium (e.g., dry deposition plate) NOT carried to field. Handled and analyzed in lab same as routine field samples   | To evaluate lab-induced contamination from sample collection media, reagents, and methods   | L                    |
| LMn  | Matrix spike multiple, lab                              | N-th duplicate of the lab matrix spike (LMS). Aliquot of routine field sample split from "true" sample. Fortified with a known concentration of target analyte(s). Created in the lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample                        | To evaluate matrix effect on routine field samples. Checks interference both from matrix and laboratory instrumentation. Provides precision assessment of LMS   | L                    |
| LMS  | Matrix spike, lab                                       | Aliquot of routine field sample split from "true" field sample. Fortified with a known concentration of target analyte(s). Created (ie. split and fortified) in the lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample                                      | To evaluate matrix effect on routine field samples (e.g., does organic content of matrix sorb any of the spiked material). Checks interference both from matrix and laboratory instrumentation                              | L                    |
| LPB  | Blank, lab procedural                                   | Aliquot containing all reagents, internal standards, surrogates, and solvents in same volumes used to process/analyze RFS. Created in lab. Contains no field collection media (XAD resin) or dummy blank matrix (reagent water). Handled/analyzed               | To evaluate possible contamination biases from the reagents and solvents used in the process without the interfering presence of sample collection media or dummy sample matrix   | L                    |
| LPC  | Performance check solution, lab                         | Aliquot containing a solution with known concentrations of target analyte(s), surrogate(s), and/or internal standards used to evaluate the performance of an instrument with respect to a defined set of criteria   | To evaluate the performance of a lab instrument with respect to a pre-defined set of criteria   | L                    |
| LPn  | Procedural spike<br>duplicate, lab                      | N-th duplicate of the lab procedural spike (LPS). Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item containing all reagents, solvents, standards, surrogates as routine field sample. Fortified with known quantity of target analyte. Created in lab.             | To evaluate the accuracy of extraction and analysis of target analytes in the absence of field matrix interferences. Also to evaluate potential contamination from extraction solvent. Provides precision assessment of LPS | L                    |
| LPS  | Procedural spike, lab                                   | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (filter, resin) containing all reagents, solvents, standards, surrogates as routine field sample. Fortified with known quantity of target analyte. Created in lab. Handled & analyzed same as rout. field sample | To evaluate the accuracy of extraction and analysis of target analytes in the absence of field matrix interferences. Also to evaluate potential contamination from extraction solvent                                       | L                    |

| Code | <u>Name</u>                            | <u>Description</u>  | <u>Purpose</u>  | Field or<br>Lab Flag |
|------|--|---|---|----------------------|
| LRB  | Blank, lab reagent                     | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) containing all reagents, internal standards, surrogates, and solvents used to process/analyze routine field samples.  Created in lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample      | To identify and/or evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples from any source in the laboratory   | L                    |
| LRS  | Reference sample, lab                  | Reference sample of the same matrix as a routine field sample. The reference sample has a mean value, established over time, which is specific to the lab running the analysis. Created in the lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample       | To evaluate performance of lab equipment against known concentrations of target analyte. (Similar to standard solutions, except created by lab rather than some external entity like EMSL or NIST)                                  | L                    |
| LSB  |  | Aliquot containing solvents used to process/analyze routine field sample. Does not contain reagent water, standards, surrogates, or other reagents. Created in lab. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample                                       | To isolate and evaluate possible contamination introduced to routine field samples from solvents  | L                    |
| LSD  | Spike duplicate, lab                   | Routine field sample which is analyzed according to the analytical method, and is the 2nd of two independent aliquots of the sample taken for fortification with target analyte(s)  | To assess lab precision on sample matrix and to assess matrix variability   | L                    |
| LSF  | (final values)                         | One part of a routine field sample that is split in lab. This split (LSF) is fortified in lab with known concentration of analyte and analyzed in the lab according to the specified method. The other split is analyzed without fortification              | To evaluate the amount of target analyte existing in the fortified sample so that it can be compared to a "duplicate" sample (LSO) that should be identical in all ways except that it did not have addition of the subject analyte | L                    |
| LSS  | Surrogate spike, lab                   | Routine field sample fortified with a surrogate of the target analyte(s) which mimics the target analyte but which is not normally found in routine field sample. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample   | To evaluate bias in the sample matrix (usually as a function of percent recovery of the surrogate)  | L                    |
| LTB  | Blank, lab trip                        | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) created in lab. Not carried to field. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample  | To isolate and evaluate potential contamination introduced to samples during lab processing/analysis. Used as QC for samples taken during an entire trip  | L                    |
| LVM  | Calibration verification solution, lab | Aliquot of reagent water or other neutral item (resin, filter) to which known quantity of target analyte is added. Created in lab. Analyzed using exact instrument used to analyze routine field samples  | To verify calibration reached with LCM sample   | L                    |
| MDLS |  | Standard solution containing known quantities of target analytes in units comparable to the routine field sample.  Standard solution created in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 136, Appendix B (e.g., Ultra 10 congener and pesticide/TNC/atrazine standards) | To establish concentration range of analytical equipment where quanitification is reliable  | L                    |

| Code | Name  | Description  | Purpose  | Field or<br>Lab Flag |
|------|---|--|--|----------------------|
|      | Matrix spike blank,<br>lab                            |  | To determine background levels of analytes in matrix used to process Laboratory Procedural Spike (LPS). The MSB is a historically "clean" environmental sample used as an LPS  | L                    |
| RFS  | Routine field sample                                  | Sample or aliquot collected in the field. Routine field samples are the actual, "real" samples taken in the field. Not a quality control sample of any kind  | To assess the environmental "level" of the subject analyte, species of interest, or other collected entity   | F                    |
| SFB  | Spiked blank, field                                   | Aliquot of reagent water/solvent used in routine field sample extraction. Includes internal standards and surrogates with known level of target analytes added in the field. Not processed on adsorption media. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as RFS | To evaluate recovery of target analytes without interference from adsorption media   | F                    |
| SFDn | Sequential duplicate<br>("n"-th member from<br>field) | The "n"-th duplicate of a routine field sample (RFS). Taken at the SAME PLACE but somewhat LATER TIME as RFS, using the same gear, and treated same as RFS through all field, transport, and lab procedures  | To evaluate field sampling and matrix variability when duplicate samples theoretically contain the same amount of the subject analyte. The sample is taken at different time than RFS when the method or conditions make it difficult for true duplication     | F                    |
| SLB  | Solvent spike, lab                                    | Aliquot of solvent at same volume used in routine field sample extraction, includes internal standards/surrogates, fortified in lab with known levels of target analytes. Not processed on adsorption media. Handled and analyzed same as routine field sample | To evaluate recovery of target analytes without interference from adsorption media   | L                    |
| SRHn | Standard check, high<br>("n"-th member from<br>field) | The n-th aliquot of solution with known high concentration (e.g. 80%) of target analyte. Carried to field and exposed to same conditions/equipment as routine field sample. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                    | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" value. If not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate instrumentation at high end of reporting spectrum or (2) possible contamination from field, transport, or lab                                 | F                    |
| SRLn | Standard check, low<br>("n"-th member from<br>field)  | The n-th aliquot of solution with known low concentration (e.g. 20%) of target analyte. Carried to field and exposed to same conditions/equipment as routine field sample. Handled, transported, and analyzed same as routine field sample                     | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "known" value. If not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate instrumentation at low end of reporting spectrum or (2) possible contamination from field, transport, or lab                                  | F                    |
| SRM  | Reference material, standard                          | Aliquot containing a certified value of the target analyte (aliquot usually from NIST). Never carried to field. Analyzed same as routine field sample  | To evaluate how closely reported result matches the "certified" value (ie, check on accuracy/precision or calibration of the measurement system). If values are not identical, can indicate (1) inaccurate analytical procedures or (2) possible contamination | L                    |